



HOLY CROSS

1948 *Church* 2023

ANNIVERSARY 75TH

*Sharing our enthusiasm for our faith;
Nurturing love of others;
Leading people to Christ.*

**651 E. Springfield Road
Springfield, PA 19064
holycrosscatholics.org**

Parish and School Staff

PARISH CLERGY

Rev. Steven W. Kiernan, Pastor
Deacon Thomas Taylor

PARISH OFFICE

(610)626-3321

contactus@holycrosscatholics.org

Theresa Carey, Business Manager
Donna Berg, Parish Secretary
Betty McIntyre, Safe Environment Coordinator
Andrew Ryan, Bulletin Editor

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

(610)-626-1057

PREPHolyCross@gmail.com

Kelly Meliti, Director of Religious Education
Linda Ryan, Administrative Assistant

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

(610)-626-1709

hcscrusaders.com

Daniel Salvatore, Principal
Ellen Spurrier, Enrollment/Tuition Manager
Sheila Moeller, Receptionist

PARISH MUSIC MINISTRY

holycrossmus@gmail.com
Grete Ingalls, Music Director

Parish Communication

To receive e-mail and text updates from the parish, text
holycrossdelco to 84576.

Mass Schedule

Sunday Masses

Saturday: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 8:30 & 11:00 am

Daily Mass

Tuesday-Friday: 8:30 am

Holy Day & Holiday Masses

As Announced

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday: 3:30-4:15 pm
or by appointment

Parish Devotions

Holy Rosary

Tuesday-Friday after Mass

Adoration Chapel

Monday-Friday 9am-7pm
Chapel located in back of rectory

Sacraments

Sacrament of Baptism

2nd and 4th Sundays at 12 noon
*Please call the office to schedule
the baptism of children. Parents and
godparents must attend a Baptism
Preparation Session.*

Sacrament of the Sick

Please call the parish office or
speak to the priest after Mass to
request the Anointing of the Sick.
If in a hospital or nursing home,
please ask the staff to notify the
parish that covers that facility.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Couples looking to get married at
Holy Cross should contact the
pastor at least six months before
the intended wedding date to
discuss marriage preparations and
schedule the wedding.

Holy Communion for the Homebound

Please call the parish office.

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday, 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-4:00
Closed Fridays, Holidays and Holy Days
Office is located in the back of the church building

Sunday, January 19, 2025



FROM THE PASTOR

Every January, we are required to submit a report to the Archdiocese of what you might call our parish's vital statistics. I thought it might be informative to share some of them with you to give you a snapshot of where we are as a parish:

- We have 844 registered families in the parish, which equates to 2,410 parishioners.
 - Based on the most recently published population numbers, about 30% of parishes in the Archdiocese have a population smaller than ours; 70% are larger.
- An average of 301 people attend Mass on any given Sunday—around 100 per Mass. (That's 12% of our population.)
- We celebrated 18 baptisms, 24 children received their First Holy Communion, 28 received the Sacrament of Confirmation, three marriages were celebrated here, and 18 people received the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.
- There were 56 funerals celebrated in the church or in a local funeral home.

For many years, Holy Cross was an enormous parish. Both the upper and lower churches would be packed for every Mass. When Fr. Collins was a student here, there were more kids in his grade level than there are in the entire school today. Our CYO teams were powerhouses. Fundraisers like the infamous 50-50 brought in money like we were printing it in the basement. But that's not where we are today.

Let's be honest. We are a small parish. We are not a dead parish. We are not a dying parish. Nothing in those numbers automatically precludes us from being successful and thriving as a parish. But if we want to be successful, if we want to thrive, we have to acknowledge the reality that we are not what we were, and we have to adapt accordingly. We have to frame our minds around the reality of being a small parish, and not the enormous parish of generations ago.

The Mormon Tabernacle Choir has something like 360 singers. If one member gets sick and stays home one day, it would have zero effect on the quality of that day's performance. If 50 or 60 or 80 of them gave only a half-hearted effort to a concert, would anyone in the audience really notice? The rest of the choir would carry it and it'd be good enough. On the other hand, think about a barbershop quartet. If someone doesn't show up, you'd notice it! If two of them don't give it 100%, it's going to sound terrible. In a small group, everyone has to step up and work hard for success.

The same for us as a parish right now. None of us can coast. None of us can rely on "everyone else" to do everything. Each of us is going to have to ask himself: do I want this parish to thrive, and if so, what can I do to help make that happen? What change do I have to make to how I think about and interact with Holy Cross to help the parish be successful? I would encourage everyone to really think about and come up with a personal answer to those questions.

2nd
Sunday in
Ordinary
Time

Reading I: Isaiah 62; 1-5

The spokesman for God breaks a long silence and tells of the glory of the new Zion. There Christ will eventually reveal His glory to all the nations.

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11

Paul, discerning competition within the community about gifts, declares that while there are many gifts, all of them flow from the same Holy Spirit.

The Gospel: John 2: 1-11

This beautiful story presents the first of Jesus' "signs." These are Jesus' miracles. Here John underscores Mary's intercessory power. He also reminds his readers that it is the Father's will that guides Jesus' whole ministry.

Pray for all of God's children!



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, JANUARY 20

8:30 AM - No Mass

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21

8:30 AM - Richard Gregorio,
Kathryn & James Gregorio, Rita
Creato

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22

8:30 AM - Maureen Ketchum

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23

8:30 AM - Dorothy & Thomas Cassidy
and Dorothy Ruane

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24

8:30 AM - Glen Davis

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25

8:30 AM - No Mass

4:30 PM - For the People of the
Parish

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

8:30 AM - John & Harold Basilice

11:00 AM - John, Peggy & Bob Riccio

SANCTUARY LAMP



This week's Sanctuary Lamp
intention is for:

Church - John Kemmey
Chapel - Bob Seitz, Jr.

COLLECTION INFORMATION

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Weekly Need | \$12,000 |
| Weekly Collection, January 12 | |
| Total | \$7,084 |
| Electronic | \$2,844 |
| Basket & Mail-Ins | \$4,240 |

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Beginning in January... A name will stay in the bulletin for FOUR WEEKS. The contact person must notify the Parish Office if the person needs to stay on the list or they will be removed. Names can be put on the prayer list or removed from the prayer list by contacting the Parish Office in person, by phone (610.626.3321) or by email (contactus@holycrosscatholic.org).

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Consiglia Borreli | Rich Meroney |
| Lyndi Butler | Richard McCullough |
| Mary Ann Carroll | Larry McCusker |
| George Dickinson | Francis Murray |
| Dawn Gibbons | Charlotte O'Leary |
| Carolyn Henderson | Paige O'Leary |
| Steven Henderson | Katherine Patrone |
| Ken Kull | Mary Rafferty |
| Mary Kull | Ronnie Sidebottom |
| Kendall Lambert | Joseph Sindoni |
| Lee Anne McGough | Adeline Sulpizio |
| Joann Marks | Jean Super |
| Maryanne McCauley | Valerie Thompson |
| Matthew Bannon | Betty Tomczyk |
| Mary Ann Nero | Madalyn Parr |
| Jack McGough | Carter Claire Walton |
| Bill Homony | Deacon Frankenberger |
| Mary Ellen Sweeney | Lynn Neary |
| Janice LeTourneau | Eileen McAvinue |
| Teresa O'Neill | Kieran McCann |
| Mary Cuccinello | Kieran Coyle |

The Corner

Brought to you by your Evangelization Team

On Wednesday we observe the Day of Prayer for the Protection of Unborn Children. Let us pray:

"Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg of you to spare the life of the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted, who is in danger of abortion." ---Archbishop Fulton J Sheen

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship

Holy Cross K of C will have a Free Throw Championship on Saturday January 25, 2025 in the Holy Cross Gym from 1pm to 3pm. All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are welcome to attend. The age deadline is as of January 1, 2025. All winners will advance to the District Championship.

Holy Cross School 50/50 Winner

Congratulations to Carol Dunleavy, our first winner, for the 50/50 Raffle. Thank you for your support.

St. Francis Over 50 Club

Join St. Francis over 50 Club at the "Shore Club in Springton Lake, NJ "Irish Celebration" on March 6, 2025 Cost \$130.00 per person, Includes: Deluxe Motorcoach, Luncheon, 1 Hour Open Bar & Entertainment. Please make checks payable to "St. Francis over 50 Club" and mail to Cathy Randazzo at 329 Harwicke Road, Springfield, Pa 19064 or call Cathy at 610-389-5225

Cardinal O'Hara Class of 1975 – 50th Reunion

SAVE THE DATE - October 11, 2025 – Llanerch Country Club

We Need Your Help! Submit your contact information to OharaClassof75@gmail.com... follow us on Facebook at Cardinal O'Hara Class of '75...Let other classmates know too! See you next year!

American Red Cross

Give blood. Help save lives.

Blood Drive St. Charles Roman Catholic Church

Hall
3422 Dennison Avenue
Drexel Hill, PA 19026

**Monday, February 3, 2025
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Saint Charles RC Church to schedule an appointment.

Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients.
If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor, consider making a Power Red donation.
Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



Create a flurry of hope! Come give blood Jan. 27 to Feb. 28 for a \$15 e gift card rcblood.org/flurry



School News

Our first week in 2025 is done. It was an interesting start to the new year. We had a snowstorm, a new gym floor, and some internet issues. It was great to see the students and all of our teachers and staff happy to return and get back in the swing. It was a nice beginning to the New Year, even though we rolled with the internet outages, the printer par-functioning, and the arctic temperatures. If God brings you to it, He brings you through it.

We have a lot of events coming up, especially during Catholic Schools Week which starts on Sunday, January 26, with our Open House, from 12 pm until 1 pm. We invite all our parishioners, families, and students to stop by and see what wonderful things are happening at Holy Cross School. Meet our teachers and tour our school. We have a lot of fun activities planned for this week of celebration. On Tuesday, January 28, we will have a preview of the Book Fair, and our sales will start on Wednesday, January 29. We welcome all to come and shop. We also have the Science Fair, the Talent Show, Student and Teacher appreciation days, and some special activities daily.

In the month of Catholic Schools Week, we celebrate the Feast Day of St. John Neumann. We need to remember him, because St. John Neumann, as our 4th Bishop of Philadelphia, created the Catholic Schools in Philadelphia due to the turmoil and refusal of some public schools to teach immigrant children from Catholic countries. This created a demand for facilities where education could coexist with spiritual training and Catholic culture.

Holy Spirit Group Retreat – Malvern Retreat St Joseph in the Hills

January 24-26, 2025

It is a Traditional Men's retreat, including daily Mass, conferences, all meals and overnight accommodations, at a cost of \$275.00 Our weekend begins 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 24 through Sunday 26, 2025. I'd like you to consider coming out for this retreat. During this time, you will experience prayer, meditation, reconciliation, group discussions Eucharistic liturgies and special speakers.

- * This years' Retreat Director is Father William Cocco of St Edmonds Parish Rehoboth Beach DE.
- * Our speakers are Deacon Tom McGovern of St Joseph Paris High bridge N.J.
- * Mary Bea with the Carlo Acutis Shrine at Malvern retreat House.
- * Finally, our special event is Mr. Eustace Wolfington, Executive Producer, of Angel Studio's presenting a private viewing of the acclaimed movie "Cabrini".

Scrip Program

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The easy way to raise money, buy gift cards and earn for Holy Cross School.

Start earning with the RaiseRight mobile app today or fill out a Scrip Order Form and return to the Business Office. The Scrip Order Forms are available at the entrances of the church OR Download the RaiseRight mobile app from the app store using your smartphone or tablet or go to RaiseRight.com on your computer.

Have questions about getting started? Call the ShopWithScrip Customer Support team at 1-800-727-4715 option 3.

Food Pantry Update

Happy New Year to all. We were able to help many over the Christmas season. The Acme provided us with a huge donation that covered the food for our Christmas dinner distribution. Yeah Acme.

Also, our friends at ShopRite are providing us with dry goods and bakery items each week. What a blessing.

Over the holidays, our clients received a rare treat (something most may take for granted) an assortment of mops, dustpans, buckets and brooms). Our Neighbors in Need were able to pick an item and you would have thought they received gold... Be Satori, based locally in Springfield provided these goodies. Thank You.

Clam Tavern provided a van full of food and Nirvana provides us with pet food All Year long. Many Blessings for their generosity and All of our year.

If you know anyone in need of food in Delco, please let them know that we are open Wednesdays from 3:45 to 5:30.

We continued to be humbled by the generosity and prayers within our Community. When we wonder if we will have enough.... we always seem to have what we need. We never take anything for granted and we are so Grateful for all of you.

If you are able, we need (no glass please) canned meats / tuna, stews, chef boyardee, pasta sauce, pasta, oatmeal, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, mac & cheese, and rice.

God Bless All of you,
Our SVDP Holy Cross Food Pantry Volunteers

Three Parish Book Club

The Book Club will hold its December and January meeting in the Family Life Center at Holy Cross on Wednesday, January 29th at 7PM. If you would like to join the meeting or if you would like more information, please contact Terry Price at 610.506.6449 or via email at termprice@verizon.net.

December book – Waiting for Christ – St. John Henry Newman

January book – Walking with God in the Unimpressive Seasons of Life – Fr. Mike Schmitz

First Friday Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Please join us for the Nine First Fridays Devotion of Reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The devotion will begin on Friday, October 4th and end on Friday, June 6th, fulfilling our Lord's request of nine consecutive Fridays.

The Schedule for First Fridays:
First Friday Mass will be celebrated at 8:30 am.
Adoration will be in the Church from 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm.
Confessions will be held from 7:00 pm - 7:45 pm.

If you would like more information about First Friday and First Saturday devotions, pamphlets are available at the entrance of either side of the Church.

The Incredible Christmas Eucharistic Miracle of 2013

On December 25, 2013, the St. Hyacinth's Shrine in Legnica, Poland celebrated Christmas Mass.

During communion, a host fell to the floor. Following the Church's instructions to respect sacred species, the priest placed the Eucharist in a container of holy water and kept it in the tabernacle.

However, two weeks later, the priest discovered that the host turned red. He told the bishop, and a commission was established to observe the phenomenon.

Bishop Zbigniew Kerlikowski of Legnica later released a statement regarding the Forensic Medicine Department's [analysis results](#).

"In the histopathological image, fragments of tissue were found, which contained fragmented particles of striated muscle tissue. The whole image is very similar to that of a cardiac muscle ... that shows changes typical of an agony. DNA shows that the tissue is of human origin.

This Eucharistic miracle of Christmas 2013 seems to bring together three feats that Jesus accomplished for our salvation: a God incarnate and born as a little baby, a God who gives himself for us in the sacrifice of the Cross, and a God always waiting for us in the Eucharist.

ARE YOU SURE YOU CAN'T SPARE JUST ONE HOUR WITH JESUS IN OUR INTIMATE CHAPEL????

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAINTAIN OUR CURRENT SCHEDULE. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT EILEEN AT 610-213-3369

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1. Just go to FORMED.org or download the FORMED app
2. Enter your ZIP code and select "Holy Cross" from the drop-down menu and press "Next"
3. Register with your name and email address
4. Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED. No password is needed and you will have full access to the site. ENJOY!

St. Mary Polish American Society Scholarship

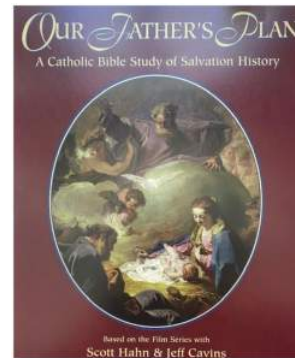
St. Mary Polish American Society is accepting applications for the third annual Felicia Jemionek Rzeznik Memorial Scholarship, a \$1,500 scholarship to a qualified student of Polish ancestry residing within the Archdiocese of Philadelphia pursuing full-time undergraduate studies at an accredited college or university in the United States. Full information about the scholarship is included in the QR code. For any questions, please call Dorothy Swedkowski at 610-630-0861



RETROUVAILLE: REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program will be held February 14 - 16, 2025 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

Winter Bible Study at Holy Cross



Have you ever wondered how to read your Bible, or struggled to make sense of all the different Books of the Bible? **"Our Father's Plan"** is a 13-episode program that walks through salvation history from Genesis to Revelation using the chronological narrative of the Bible. Dr Scott Hahn and Jeff Cavins present the Bible to us as a Catholic library in an easy-to-follow series that will increase your understanding and knowledge of God's plan for humanity. There will be valuable group discussions after the videos. Light refreshments will be served.

We will show this at 2 different times, so **PICK THE TIME** that is best for you.

When: **Mondays**, November 18 thru February 24 --- 7:00 – 8:30 PM - in the Holy Cross Parish Center

Or: **Wednesdays**, November 20 thru February 26 -- 9:15 – 10:45 AM – in the Holy Cross Parish Center

The Bible Study is free! A workbook is **NOT** necessary, but please bring your Bible and a highlighter. We do have a few Bibles for your use if you do not have one of your own. **Please join us and bring a friend! If you attend the Wednesday morning session, please also join us for 8:30 Mass that morning.**

Please note: We will not meet during the Christmas weeks of December 22 and 29.

To save a seat or for more information, contact Pattie Stevens at pattiejstevens@comcast.net or 484.868.8571.

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